

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey P.G. #68-17 Building Date: 1883

Building Name: Holden House

Location: 4110 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland

Private/Residential/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Holden House is a two-story frame house with a "t" shaped plan and a complex roofline. The house stands on a town lot, in the Hyattsville National Register Historic District. It is notable for its steeply pitched roof, two-story, semi-octagonal east bay, decorative features such as crossed trusses in the gables and gable dormers, and sawtoothed vertical siding in the upper gables. The main facade has entrance in the third bay through a double door with a stained glass transom. The two windows to the west of the entrance are floor-to-ceiling double casement windows surmounted by stained glass transoms, flanked by louvered shutters. The first story is sheltered by a three bay, hipped roof porch which wraps around the east and west sides of the building. Some second story windows are 2/2 double hung wooden sash with segmental arched heads. The four bay east facade is dominated by a two story semi-octagonal bay projecting from beneath a cross gable. The interior of the Holden House has an east side hall with one west parlor and two north parlors. The kitchen is to the rear, in the north wing of the house.

Significance

The Holden house is an outstanding example of vernacular stick style Victorian architecture. Particularly notable are the scissors trusses decorating the cornices of the gable ends and gable dormers. The Holden house was built in 1883 for Frederic Augustus Holden, a bureaucrat in the Federal Government's General Land Office and a Hyattsville Town Commissioner shortly after the town's incorporation in 1886. The house was one of the first built in Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville. It was built by George N. Walker, an active contractor and builder in Hyattsville. It is possible that the Holden House is a pattern-book house, no catalogue design has been identified at this time, however.

Acreage: 15,000 square feet

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Holden House

and/or common Schopf - Seigler House

### 2. Location

street & number 4110 Gallatin Street    not for publicationcity, town Hyattsville    vicinity of    congressional district 5state Maryland    county Prince George's

### 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  X  </u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>  X  </u> building(s)	<u>  X  </u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<u>  X  </u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  X  </u> not applicable	<u>  X  </u> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Paul Schopf/Jane Seigler

street & number 4110 Gallatin Street    telephone no.:city, town Hyattsville    state and zip code Maryland 20781

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse    liber 5179street & number Main Street    folio 128city, town Upper Marlboro    state Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date July 1981    federal    state   X   county    localdepository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC, Riverdale, Maryland    andcity, town Historic Preservation Commission, Rm 4010, CAB, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. P.G.#68-17

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Holden House is a two-story frame house with a "t" shaped plan. The roofline is complex. The front section of the house is hipped with a mid-section of cross-gables, and the rear a gable wing. The house is set on a town lot, fronting on the north side of Gallatin Street in the Hyattsville National Register Historic District. The house is notable for its steeply pitched roof, two-story, semi-octagonal east bay, decorative features such as crossed trusses in the gables and gable dormers, and sawtoothed vertical siding in the upper gables.

The three bay south (main) facade has entrance in the third (east) bay through a double door with a long rectangular glazed panel in the center of each door, and a stained glass transom. The wide board door surround has a raised crown molding. The two windows to the west of the entrance are floor-to-ceiling double casement windows of three panes each. These also are surmounted by stained glass transoms and have a surround identical to that of the entrance door. The windows are flanked by louvered shutters. The first story is sheltered by a three bay, hipped roof porch which wraps around the east and west sides of the building. The low wooden porch floor is set on brick piers interspaced with wood lattice. The porch roof is supported on square wood posts.

The second story windows are 2/2 double hung wooden sash with segmental arched heads. The louvered wooden shutters also have segmental arched heads. The window surrounds have a flat triangular lintel with a raised crown molding. The west two windows are combined into a double window and are surmounted by a cross gable with overhanging eaves decorated with a long, crossed truss. The raking cornice has a raised crown molding. The lower portion of the truss meets and joins the rake board and has a decoratively cut end. There is a diamond shaped window centered in the upper gable, which is sided with vertical board siding with lower ends cut in a sawtooth pattern. This creates a decorative, jagged band across the widest expanse of the gable.

The roof of the Holden House is covered with black asphalt shingle. The deeply overhanging eaves have a raised crown molding along the roofline. The house is sided with horizontal lapped board siding with corner boards, and is set on a brick foundation.

The four bay east facade is dominated by the second bay which is a two story semi-octagonal bay projecting from beneath a cross gable. Windows in the bay are 1/1 sash with narrow board surrounds. There is vertical board wainscoting below the first story windows. The lintels on the first story interconnect to form a string course. The bay has a frieze and a boxed cornice. The cross-gable has the same diamond-shaped window and crossed truss as that on the main facade.

The south two bays are 2/2 sash windows with flat board lintels and louvered shutters. The main entrance porch wraps around the north bay on the facade. Above the cornice line is a gable dormer with a 2/2 sash window and a crossed truss and decorative, sawtoothed vertical board siding in the upper gable, similar to that on the cross gable. A dormer is also set on the south side of the east-facing two-story semi-octagonal bay.

The four-bay west facade has two bays in a central cross gable with the same decorative truss work and siding as that on the main and east sides. The gable has a double window with segmental arched heads on the second story, with the same detail as that described on the main facade. The front porch crosses the south bay and stops where it meets the projecting cross gable. The porch shelters a floor-to-ceiling window similar to those on the main facade. The south bay is surmounted by a gable dormer with the same detail and placement as that on the east facade. There is also a dormer on the south side of the projecting cross gable.

The west facade has a vertical seam up the wall just north of the second bay. This is the only indication that the rear wing of the house may have been completed in two sections. There is a small rectangular window between the first and second story level, that lights a rear stairway. Window variations on the rear wing include two 6/6 sash windows and a 1/1 sash window, indicating change over time.

The two bay north gable end has a rear entrance in the east bay. The upper gable is covered with asphalt shingle and has two small square symmetrically placed six light windows. An interior corbelled brick chimney rises from the gable peak. The raking board has a crown molding and decorative cut ends like those throughout the building.

The interior of the Holden House has an east side hall with one west parlor and two north parlors. The kitchen is to the rear, in the north wing of the house.

The open string stair is set immediately in front of the entrance door, and rises along the east wall of the house. It turns 90° at a landing between the first and second story, turns 90° once again and rises along the west wall of the stair hall to the second floor. The stair ends have fan brackets. The balusters are turned on the upper and lower portions and have a central rectangular section. The newel post is approximately four and one-half feet in height, roughly square in cross-section,

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G.#68-17

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 3

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set on a diagonal. The newel has decoratively cut edges, a diamond-shaped incised flower design on each of its three outer faces and is surmounted by a large knob. The spandrel is panelled with vertical boards. The base-boarding running up the stair and throughout the house has a center banded section and a cap and base molding.

The entry door surround has wide banded molding with bulls-eye corner blocks. This surround is repeated on doors and windows throughout the house. The flooring is narrow, oak boards of uniform width.

The entry to the west parlor from the stair hall has high double doors of three panels each. The west parlor is lighted by the two south windows with stained glass transoms. There is a narrow cornice molding which is repeated in the northwest parlor.

The northwest parlor has a corner hearth in the southeast corner of the room. Double turned spindels with an incised raised floral design support brackets which support the mantel shelf. The mantel surround has incised bands, a scalloped molding along the frieze, and a circular incised flower on the face of the two brackets supporting the mantel shelf. Around the square hearth opening glazed tiles depict scenes from Shakespeare plays. The hearth floor is also tiled.

High double doors provide entry from the northwest parlor into the northeast parlor or dining room. The rest of the doors in the house are lower, five-panel doors. There is a wooden plate rail encircling the dining room at the level of the lower door heads. The semi-octagonal bay in the east wall has a window in each of its three faces, with very wide sills.

The large north wing is entered through a door in the northwest corner of the dining room. The floor plan of the wing is irregular and bears evidence of the moving of room partitions and additions of rooms over time. The north wing contains a small hall with a flanking pantry and bath. The kitchen is directly to the north or rear of this small hall. There is an enclosed rear stair in the southwest corner of the kitchen. A division down the center of the ceiling is evidence of the room being enlarged. There is some original vertical wainscot panelling on the walls. The banded door surrounds with bulls-eye corner blocks in the kitchen are recent reproductions.

The second story has a bedroom over each of the three parlors and a bedroom and bath over the kitchen. The same flooring, base boarding and door and window surroundings are continued on the second story. There are two curved walls, used in the floor plan of the second story, an outward curve between the hall and the east bedroom and an inward, concave curve between the hall and the northeast, rear bedroom. The main stair rises to the third story which has three finished rooms and a large unfinished attic.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#68-17

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		local history

**Specific dates** 1883 **Builder/Architect** George N. Walker, builder

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Holden house is an outstanding example of vernacular stick style Victorian architecture. Particularly notable are the scissors trusses decorating the cornices of the gable ends and gable dormers. The use of large, showy gable trusses is relatively rare in Prince George's County.

The Holden house was built in 1883 for Frederic Augustus Holden, a bureaucrat in the Federal Government's General Land Office. Holden also served as a Hyattsville Town Commissioner shortly after the town's incorporation in 1886.<sup>1</sup> The house was one of the first built in the subdivision called Wine and Johnson's First Addition to Hyattsville, platted in 1882. It was built by George N. Walker, an active contractor and builder in Hyattsville, also responsible for the Catholic Church there, constructed in 1887.<sup>2</sup>

It is possible that the Holden House is a pattern-book house, the plans purchased from one of the catalogs of house plans available during the late 19th century. Such catalogs were offered by companies that supplied blueprints of dwellings at low cost, which could then be given to a contractor for the construction of a home. No catalogue design has been identified for the Holden house at this time, however.

The house passed in 1894 to the ownership of Ellen F. Holden, a daughter of Frederic A. Holden. In 1913 it was conveyed to John G. Holden, son of Frederick A. Holden, employed as a banker. The house was sold from the Holden family in 1926 and has had three long-term ownerships since that date.<sup>3</sup>

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> The Evening Star, November 3, 1887, reprinted in Prince George's Post, Souvenir Supplement, October 6-8, 1961; Hyattsville Independent, October 10, 1936.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

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Survey No. P.G.#68-17

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid; Prince George's County Plat JWB 1:286, 1882; and United States Census, Prince George's County, District #2, 1900.

<sup>3</sup> United States Census, Prince George's County, District #16, 1910, #313; and Land Records of Prince George's County, Deeds, JWB 1:755; JWB 2:671, JWB 30:466, 97:205, 260:322.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #68-17

see Notes, #8

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property 15,000 sq. ft.

Map 50 Grid B-1

Quadrangle name Washington East 1E

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historian/Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission

date June, 1981 and Nov. 1987

street & number 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive

telephone 952-4609

city or town Upper Marlboro

state Maryland 20772

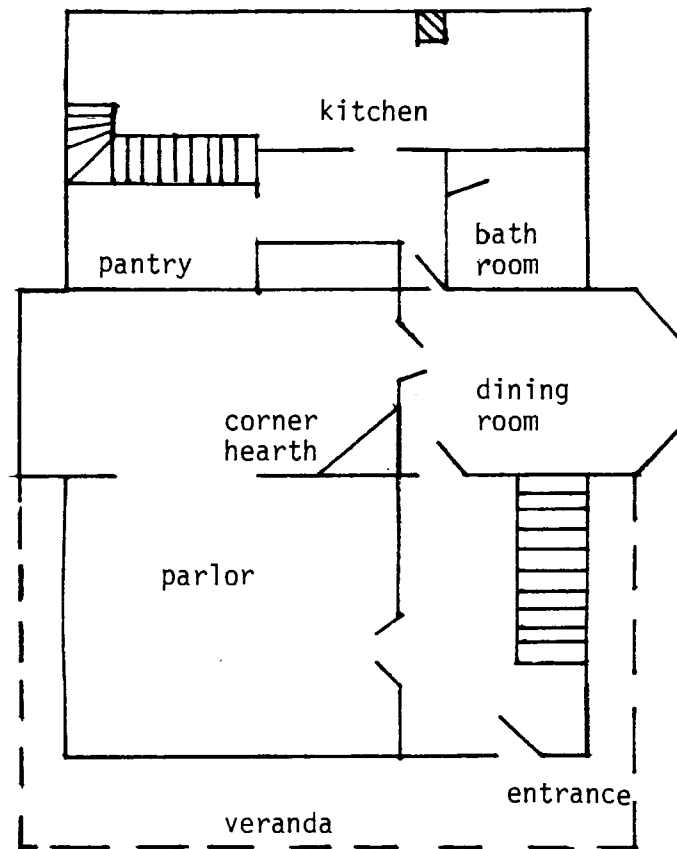
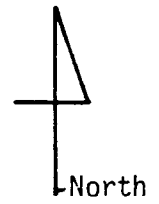
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438



P.G.#68-17  
Holden House  
Floor plan  
not to scale



CHAIN OF TITLE

HOLDEN HOUSE

P.G.#68-17

5179:128 26 Oct 1979 Deed	Dale Hutton to Paul Schopf and Jane Seigler; lots 32 & 33, Wine & Johnson's 1st addition to Hyattsville (plat Book A #19)
3645:675 10 Oct 1968 Deed	Edna Walters (surviving tenant of Ray Walters) and R. Eugenia Walters to Dale Hutton; lots 32 & 33
1121:350 5 May 1949 Deed	Laura Purdum to Ray and Edna Walters, lots 32 & 33 (Laura is surviving tenant of Smith W. Purdum)
397:173 16 Oct 1933 Deed	Harry & Marvett Boswell to Smith W. & Laura Purdum, lots 32 & 33
391:264 24 Jan 1933 Deed	George Coleburn, assignee of mortgage, to Harry Boswell; after mortgage by Holden family to Alice Ditch; lots 32 & 33
260:322 7 Aug 1926 Mtg	Gertrude, John, Dorothy and Paxton Holden (heirs of John G. Holden, deceased) to Alice Ditch, lots 32 & 33
97:205 26 Aug 1913 Deed	Augustus & Adalyn Holden to John G. Holden, lots 32 & 33, which parties of first part received from the estate of Ellen F. Holden
JWB#30:466 13 Dec 1894 Deed	Augustus & Adalyn Holden to Ellen F. Holden; lots 32 & 33 in Johnson & Wine's 1st addition to Hyattsville

Mortgage and release, 1885 and 1894

Deeds of trust, 1884

JWB#2:671 2 Jan 1884 Deed of Trust	Augustus & Annie (1st wife) Holden to Benjamin Guy and John N. Walker; whereas Augustus Holden is indebted to George N. Walker for \$1550, so this deed in trust to Guy & Walker, lots 32 & 33
JWB#1:755 5 Apr 1883 Deed	George Johnson & Louis Wine to Augustus Holden; lots 32 & 33 on Ralston Ave. of Johnson & Wine's 1st addition to Hyattsville.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 68-17 Date 1870-1890  
Building Name Schopf-Siegler House  
Location 4110 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Md.  
Open to Public yes x no

The Schopf-Siegler house is a two-and-one-half story frame house. The main (south) facade is three bays wide with a transomed entrance in the third bay. The steeply pitched roof has a decorative scissors truss in the front gable. The trusses are repeated in smaller scale in other gables, including those in attic dormers. A single story porch encloses the main facade and half of the west facade. Full height French doors with stained glass transoms provide access from the living room.

The interior contains a spectacular Eastlake style mantel with tiles depicting Shakespearean plays. A dining room on the east side of the house has typical Eastlake molding as well as single louvered interior shutters. The shutters fold into recessed boxes.

The Schopf-Siegler house is a significant example of the Carpenter Gothic or stick style of vernacular building, and is in good condition. The scissors trusses are relatively rare in Prince George's County.

Priv/occ/res/good

(revised information entered 11/9/81)

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Holden House

AND/OR COMMON

Schopf-Seigler House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

4110 Gallatin Street

CITY, TOWN

Hyattsville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

P.G.

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul Schopf/Jane Seigler

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

4110 Gallatin Street

CITY, TOWN

Hyattsville, Md.

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

P.G. Co. Courthouse

Liber #: 5179

Folio #: 128

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro, Md.

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

none

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Holden house is a two-and-one-half story frame house. The main (south) facade is three bays wide with a transomed entrance in the third bay. The steeply pitched roof has a decorative scissors truss in the front gable. The trusses are repeated in smaller scale in other gables, including those in attic dormers. A single story porch encloses the main facade and part of the east and west facades. Full height French doors with stained glass transoms provide access from the living room.

The interior contains a spectacular Eastlake style mantel with tiles depicting Shakespearean plays. A dining room on the east side of the house has typical Eastlake molding as well as single louvered interior shutters. The shutters fold into recessed boxes.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES      1883

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Holden house was built in 1883 for Augustus Holden by George Walker.<sup>1</sup> It is a significant example of the Carpenter Gothic or stick style of vernacular building, and is in good condition. The scissors trusses are relatively rare in Prince George's County.

1. Hyattsville Independent, 10 October 1936;  
JWB#1:755; JWB#2:571

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

P.G. Deeds: JWB#1:755; JWB#2:671  
Hyattsville Independent, 10 October 1936

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Susan G. Pearl

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Historical & Cultural Trust

DATE

June 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Rd

TELEPHONE

779-2011

CITY OR TOWN

Riverdale, Md.

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

CHAIN OF TITLE

HOLDEN HOUSE

P.G.#68-17

5179:128  
26 Oct 1979  
Deed

Dale Hutton to Paul Schopf and Jane  
Seigler; lots 32 & 33, Wine & Johnson's  
1st addition to Hyattsville (plat Book A #19)

3645:675  
10 Oct 1968  
Deed

Edna Walters (surviving tenant of Ray  
Walters) and R. Eugenia Walters to  
Dale Hutton; lots 32 & 33

1121:350  
5 May 1949  
Deed

Laura Purdum to Ray and Edna Walters,  
lots 32 & 33 (Laura is surviving tenant of  
Smith W. Purdum)

397:173  
16 Oct 1933  
Deed

Harry & Marvett Boswell to Smith W. &  
Laura Purdum, lots 32 & 33

391:264  
24 Jan 1933  
Deed

George Coleburn, assignee of mortgage, to  
Harry Boswell; after mortgage by Holden  
family to Alice Ditch; lots 32 & 33

260:322  
7 Aug 1926  
Mtg

Gertrude, John, Dorothy and Paxton Holden  
(heirs of John G. Holden, deceased) to  
Alice Ditch, lots 32 & 33

97:205  
26 Aug 1913  
Deed

Augustus & Adalyn Holden to John G.  
Holden, lots 32 & 33, which parties of  
first part received from the estate of  
Ellen F. Holden

JWB#30:466  
13 Dec 1894  
Deed

Augustus & Adalyn Holden to Ellen F.  
Holden; lots 32 & 33 in Johnson & Wine's  
1st addition to Hyattsville

Mortgage and release, 1885 and 1894

Deeds of trust, 1884

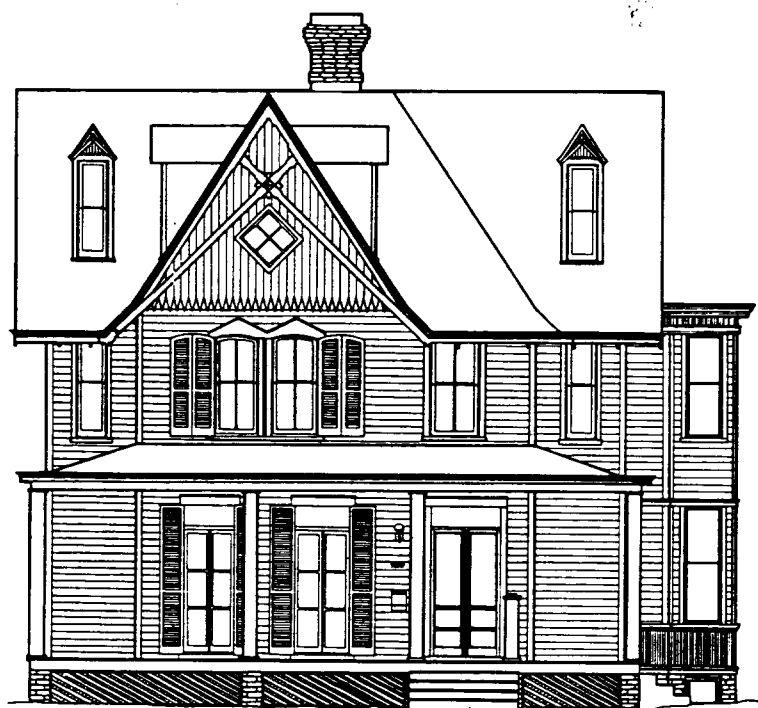
JWB#2:671  
2 Jan 1884  
Deed of Trust

Augustus & Annie (1st wife) Holden to  
Benjamin Guy and John N. Walker; whereas  
Augustus Holden is indebted to George N.  
Walker for \$1550, so this deed in trust to  
Guy & Walker, lots 32 & 33

JWB#1:755  
5 Apr 1883  
Deed

George Johnson & Louis Wine to  
Augustus Holden; lots 32 & 33 on Ralston  
Ave. of Johnson & Wine's 1st addition to  
Hyattsville.





The principle in the controversy between the promoters of a single tax on land, and the advocates of the tax legislation; and J. H. Ralston, president of the Town Commissioners, an attorney and the leading opponent of the single-tax, engaged in a lively debate on the issue which reflected the very essence and spirit of American individualism.

(Note: It is interesting and rather amusing to note that just eight years following their debate on the tax issue, Mr. Ralston served as Mr. Latimer's attorney when both men opposed a plan to put a bond issue to build a City-owned water supply system. And it is even more interesting to note that their efforts failed in the latter endeavor, and Hyattsville became the first city in the area to have its own water plant.) The theory of the single tax on land, rather than on improvements on real estate and on personal property, originated in *Progress and Poverty* by Henry George. Next to the writings of Karl Marx, *Progress and Poverty* is perhaps the most controversial book produced in the latter half of the 19th Century.

Unlike Marx, who spent 30 years in the basement of the British Museum looking for his ritual evidence to support his dialectical materialism, while taking off the modest stipends of embers of the middle-class which he felt should be done away with!!!, Henry George was an American newspaperman who once ran for the Mayor's office in New York City.

George was, in the parlance of the political scientist, a "Utopian," and his was an original thesis which had a fair amount of influence on later tax reform, but the bulk of his theory proved unworkable under this country's free enterprise system of economics.

His basic premise was that private ownership of land led to a disturbing phenomenon; those who owned land eventually got more and more, while those who did not own land eventually became more impoverished and had little chance of ever owning land. He thus advocated the eventual public ownership of all land through a system of taxation which was, in effect, confiscatory. He, along with a good number

He thus felt that by imposing a single tax on land, excess profits could be more evenly distributed by the government and thus the general welfare would be more properly served.

The reader can imagine how this theory was received in a country which had been built on rugged individualism and on the tradition of manifest destiny! The book caused nationwide reverberations, especially in the 1890's, the first decade in which Americans had had a chance to turn from their endeavors of building a nation and enjoy some leisure time in which to think as well as act as a nation well on its way to the top.

Yet there were many persons in the country who felt that the single tax system offered the best method of gathering public monies on the local level. Single-Tax groups were organized in many cities throughout the nation, and it is perhaps their influence, through the many pamphlets which they produced, which led a majority of the Hyattsville Town Commissioners to enact the single-tax legislation of Thursday, June 30, 1892.

Reaction to this act was not long in coming. On Tuesday, July 5, 1892, the Washington Evening Star reported:

"There appears to be some residents of Hyattsville who do not believe in the single tax, or, at any rate, are not willing that their town, at a time when it is rapidly growing and needs improvements, should be made the field of experiment in taxation. The following is being circulated among citizens of the town for signatures:

"We, the undersigned citizens of Hyattsville, do hereby suggest that a public meeting of the citizens be held in the Hyattsville Athletic Club rooms on Wednesday, the 6th instant, at 8:30 p.m., for the purpose of expressing our disapproval of the recent order of a majority of the town commissioners in exempting all improvements from taxation and to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the enforcement of such an order. A full meeting is requested."

An account of the meeting published in the Star of July 7, 1892, (See SINGLE TAX page B-18)

## Plus Marce of Improvements, Noted Back in 1887

### CORRESPONDENCE OF THE EVENING STAR

Hyattsville, Md. (Nov. 3, 1887.)

"A steady march of improvements and increase in population is going on at this place. There is a healthy activity in building, renting, land speculation, grading and general improvement. Messrs. Peter J. Duffy and Chas. W. Leannarda, the proprietors of the American House, in Washington, and family, now operate the Guy Mansion, which they purchased of B. F. Guy, Esq., three or four years ago.

"The widow of C. C. Hyatt, for whom this place is named, still occupies the large brick mansion to the west of the road as you enter the village, and for the greater part of the year two of the sons, Dr. Frank Hyatt, of K street, Washington, and Albert Hyatt, with Tschiffel & Evans, live at the old homestead. Sebastian Aman, the Ninth street restaurateur, has one of the handsomest places in the village, adjoining the railroad station, and lives here with his family the greater part of the year. George W. Jackson, formerly county surveyor, the civil engineer and surveyor, occupies a cottage near the railroad crossing. Dr. Charles A. Wells lives at "Oak Lawn", a beautiful home located in the heart of the village. J. H. Ralston, Esq., of the firm of Hillier and Ralston, Washington, resides at "Wing Rest", a short distance from the station. Geo. H. Evans, patent attorney, associated with Munn & Co., resides in the upper part of town, and is said to raise the finest strawberries in Prince Georges County. F. H. Smith, of the firm of F. H. Smith & Son, of Washington, lives on a fine estate in the northwest corner of the village. L. D. Wine, of the firm of Johnson & Wine, who is largely interested in real estate here, lives in the old "Ravenswood mansion," formerly occupied by Mr. J. B. Bryan and built many years ago by Gov. Bowie. Newton Crawford, Esq., solicitor of patents, resides at the "Cedars," and has four acres of ground under superb cultivation. F. J. Gramlich, of the War Department, a connoisseur in fruits, flowers and poultry, has a home at this place.

Dr. H. S. Hall, of the Treasury Department, is so contented with country life at Hyattsville, that he boasts of not having seen Washington by gas-light for three years. H. S. Bowen, of the Navy Department, has been a resident of Hyattsville for many years. F. F. Baukhages, of the Post Office, has a new house on the most commanding spot of the village, built on the site of the Guilford Cottage, burned about two years ago. Felder I. Hunter, of the War Department, resides here at present, but has sold his place on Johnson avenue, and will move into the city soon. F. A. Holden, formerly of the General Land Office, has a fine residence here, one of the first built on the Wine & Johnson plat, some four years ago. John S. Shedd, of the firm of S. S. Shedd & Bros., lives in the lower end of the village. George N. Walker, contractor and builder, brother of Major Walker of Washington, occupies a large house on a commanding site in the upper part of the village. John A. Prince, of the Pension Office, occupies the old Fenner cottage on the pike. Mr. Fenner who formerly owned a large tract of land in the village, was a man of erratic habits, having frequently considerable sums of money in his possession, and one night in 1874 was murdered on the highway in the town. The murderer was never discovered. Thomas A. Ladson, the jeweler, rents a house at this place, and contemplates building next season. J. F. Patterson, of the Sixth Auditor's Office, lives near the station. Wm. H. Fuller of the Quartermaster General's Office, occupies a cottage on Locust avenue. R. P. Evans of the firm of Tucker & Evans, occupies his new house, a half a mile or so west of the village, built on the site of his former residence, which was destroyed by fire last winter. John Gibson of the Post Office Department, has been a resident here for several years. J. S. McFarland, of the Adjutant-General's Office, owned a house near the crossing, and has brought up quite a family in Hyattsville. W. H. Richardson, of the Government Printing Office, has lived in Hyattsville for many

years. C. H. McEwen, during the past season, has completed one of the finest houses in the place, and has settled down here as a permanent resident. George M. Smith, of the War Department, has lately bought a cottage here. J. M. Wood, after living here and renting here for some time past, now occupies a house of his own. Nathan Plummer, of the Department of Justice, has leased the farm of Dr. Dufour, just on the outskirts of the village. Addison Smith, Esq., the patent attorney, has a summer residence at this place. The widow of G. N. Schoepf still occupies the old homestead. Frank and Alexander Schoepf, in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and with Schoepf, Civil Engineer, make Hyattsville their home. J. B. Burnside, of the Post Office Department, has made Hyattsville his home for sometime past, and he has lately purchased a choice location for a house, and will build in the course of a year. S. A. Holton, formerly of the Auditor's Office, resides on Locust avenue. Richard Whiting, of the Railway Mail Service, has settled here permanently, having built an attractive residence adjoining the "Ravenswood" estate. Chas. C. Wilson, of the Geological Survey Office; Thos. M. Moran, of the War Department; W. H. Moran, of the Secret Service; A. Oels, of the Surgeon General's Office; E. R. McKean, real estate agent; Frank L. Evans, of the Agricultural Department, and John B. Sieman, of the Sixth Auditor's Office, also own pleasant homes at this place.

"The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad has lately erected a handsome waiting pavillion or shed on the west side of the track for the accommodation of ingoing passengers.

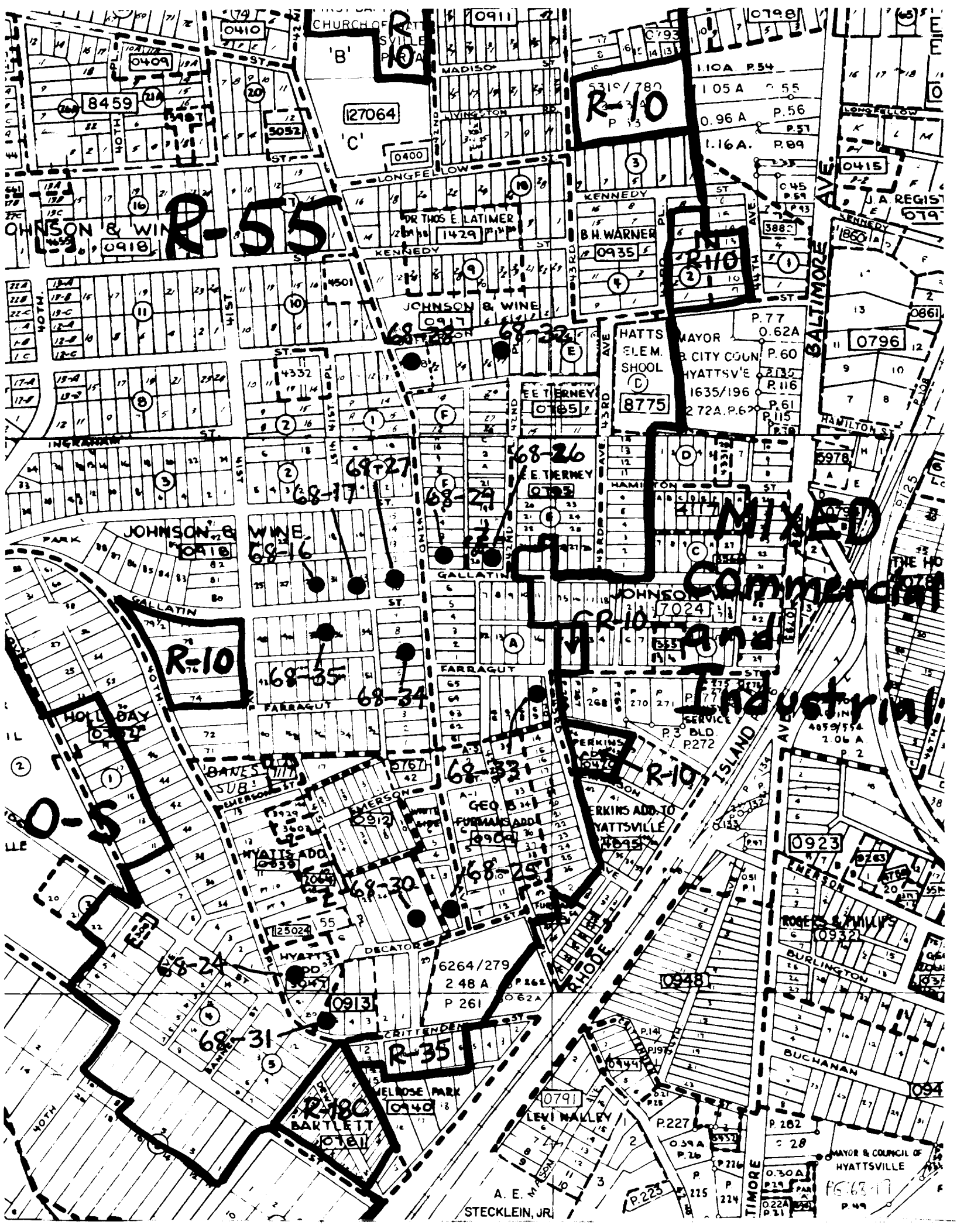
"The Catholic Church is being pushed rapidly forward by the contractor, Mr. Walker, and will be a handsome edifice when completed.

"A brick-yard has been in operation here the past summer. "A plank side-walk, half a mile in length, is to be laid soon in the main street of the village. "Melrose," the former residence (See Hyattsville Homes pg. B-96)

Reprinted in Souvenir Supplement  
Prince George's Post

Oct-6-8, 1961 Sect. B.

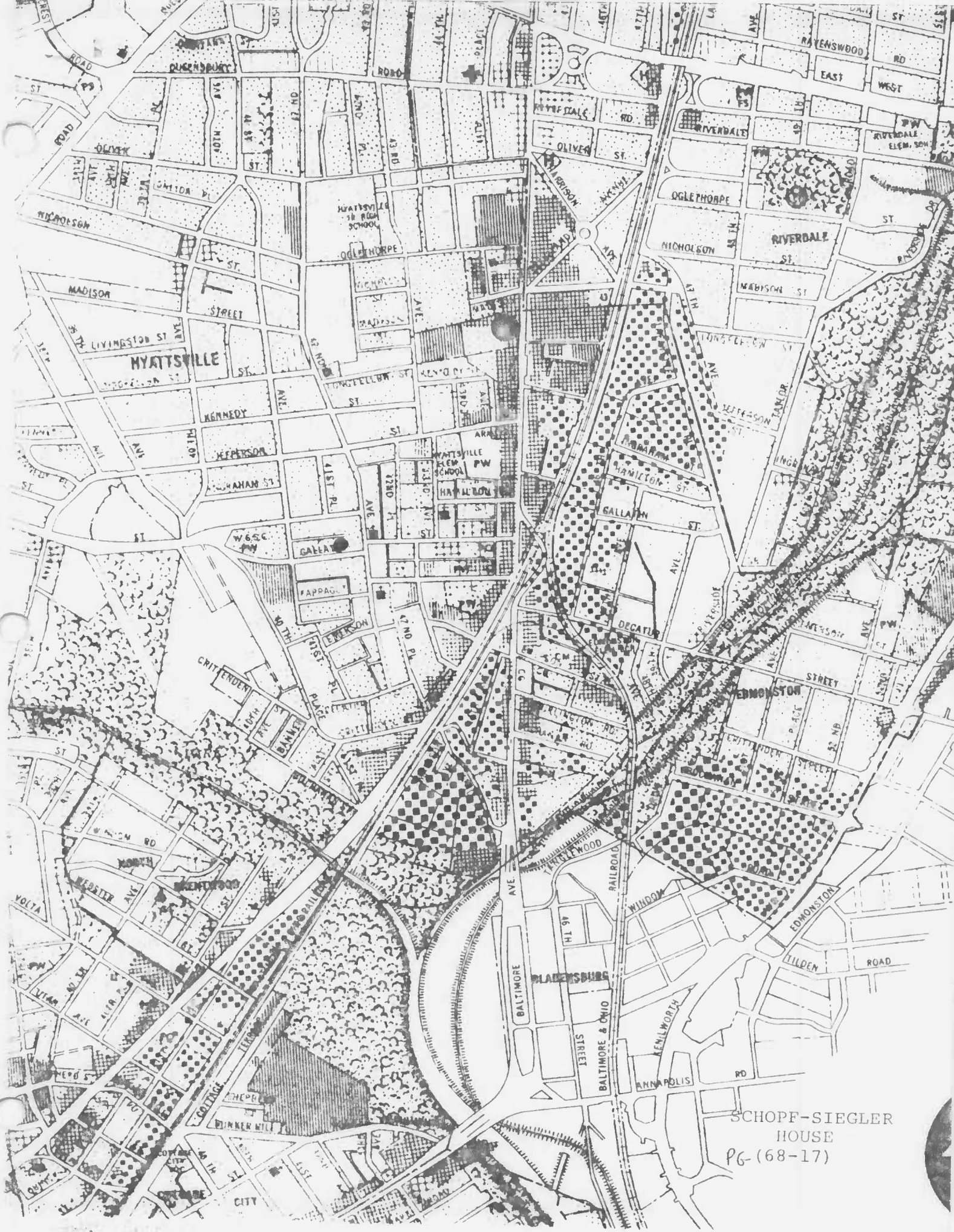
PG-62-17



# WASHINGTON EAST







SCHOPF-SIEGLER  
HOUSE  
PG-(68-17)



P.G. 68-17

Holden House  
Prince George's County  
Marina King  
April 1987  
South, main elevation  
Neg: MD Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD





Holden House

P.G. #68-17

Holden House  
Prince George's County  
Marina King  
April 1987  
East elevation  
Neg: MD Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #68-17  
Holden House  
Prince George's County  
Marina King  
April 1987  
Dining Room  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.